अलावा कच्छ तथा बनासकांठा के सीमान्त तथा मरुस्थल जिलों को सीमान्त क्षेत्र विकास कार्यक्रम (पीएडीपी) तथा मरुस्थल विकास कार्यक्रम (डीडीपी) जैसे क्षेत्र विशिष्ट कार्यक्रमों के अन्तर्गत कवर किया जा रहा है। इसके अलावा विभिन्न अन्य कार्यक्रम केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा वित्त पोषित किए जा रहे हैं ताकि पर्याप्त रोजगार तृणित किए जा सकें और औद्योगिक प्रगति को गति प्रदान की जा सके। यह कार्यक्रम है रोजगार आश्वासन स्कीम (ईएएस) और जवाहर रोजगार योजना (जेआरवाई)।

**Increase in the budgetary allocation**

1815. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per Common Minimum programme (CMP) announced by Government in June, 1996, the increase in the budgetary allotment was 23 percent of the DGP; and

(b) if so, what has been achieved in this sector during the last year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNAMALA DEHARESHWAR SAVNOOR): (a) and (b) The document titled 'A' Common Approach to Major Policy Matters and a Minimum Programme' commonly known as Common Minimum Programme (CMP) sets out the United Front Government's agenda for action. The document outlines the basic approach of the Government towards various socio-economic and political issues. There is no separate allocation of funds for the Common Minimum Programme.

**Funds for Agricultural Development in Uttar Pradesh**

1816. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH:
SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the details of funds allocated to Uttar Pradesh for the development of agriculture during the year 1997-98?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNAMALA DEHARESHWAR SAVANOOR): The outlay for the development of agriculture for the year 1997-98 for Uttar Pradesh has not yet been communicated to Planning Commission by the State Government of UP for finalisation.

**Report of Professor Lakdawala on poverty line**

1817. SHRI DAWA LAMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to place the report of Professor Lakdawala in the House, which states that people below poverty line means having a family income less than Rs. 15,000/- per annum and the all-India average of such families is 32.27 per cent only;

(b) whether Government propose to have a national debate over correctness of the report and the need for updating the same; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNAMALA DEHARESHWAR SAVANOOR): (a) The Planning Commission has accepted the recommendations of the Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor chaired by Professor Lakdawala to estimate poverty at national and state level. The Expert Group accepted the poverty line of Task Force on minimum Needs and Effective Consumption Demand which is monthly per capita expenditure of Rs. 49.09 in rural areas and Rs. 56.64 in urban areas at 1973-74 prices. The poverty line updated for 1993-94 prices is Rs. 205.89 per person per month in rural areas and Rs. 281.35 per person per month in urban areas. The percentage of poor are estimated to be 37.27 in rural areas, 32.36 in urban areas and 35.97 for the country as a whole in 1993-94.